

Rise and Design

Love Erin Gates' Elements of Style blog? Wait until you see her book! It's packed with inspiring images and smart design advice—plus revealing personal stories—that encourage readers on the journey to creating a home and life. Here's a snippet.



Blogger and designer Erin Gates has a brand-new book: *Elements of Style: Designing a Home and a Life* (\$35, Simon & Schuster).

PHOTOS: MICHAEL J. LEE; ALL CONTENT COURTESY OF SIMON & SCHUSTER

cover

this issue

fresh

home

garden

style

food

better

recipe index

“The bedroom is a place where people want to feel relaxed and soothed. This doesn’t mean it has to be boring.” Erin Gates

ERIN SAYS

“Avoid my pet peeve of too-low drapes. Hung high, they add drama and make ceilings look taller.”



ERIN SAYS “Think texture: velvet on the headboard; faux fur on the pillows and throw.”

PHOTOS: MICHAEL J. LEE; ALL CONTENT COURTESY OF SIMON & SCHUSTER

COLOR WITH CARE

“I like to approach bedrooms with sleep in mind,” Erin says. Here, she laid a soft, restful foundation with tan and white, then brought in just the right dose of coral. It’s a happy place that’s still calm for catching Z’s.

FIND YOUR MIX

“When it comes to dressing the bed, I like to mix it up,” Erin says. “Contrasting colored or patterned shams with a simple bordered white duvet looks great and more personal than an entire matching set.”

LIGHT IT UP

“I love to finish my day by reading in bed,” Erin says. “Good lighting is crucial.” In this small condo, she used gold swing-arm sconces that don’t take up a lot of real estate but are big on function and style.

LAYER IT ON

This room is a warm combination of texture, color, and pattern with lots of layering—from the area rug over the wall-to-wall carpet to the draperies over woven wood shades. Grass cloth covers the backs of sleek built-ins.